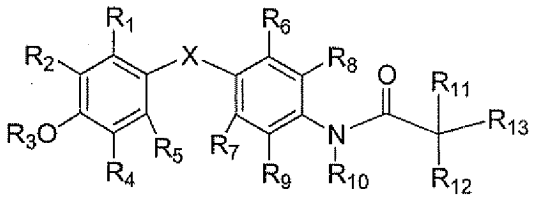
1. (Currently amended) A compound of the formula I



I

Wherein:

X is selected from oxygen (-O-), selenium (-Se-), sulfur (-S-), sulfenyl (SO), sulfonyl ($SO_2$), carbonyl (-CO), methylene (-$CH_2$-) and –NH-;

$R_1$ is selected from hydrogen, halogen, $CF_3$ and $C_1$ to $C_6$ alkyl;

$R_2$ is selected from halogen, $CF_3$, $C_1$ to $C_6$ alkyl, $C_2$ to $C_6$ alkenyl, $C_2$ to $C_6$ alkynyl, $C_3$ to $C_7$ cycloalkyl, $C_4$ to $C_7$ cycloalkenyl, aryl, ~~heteroaryl~~, alkoxy, aryloxy, $COR_{14}$, $CR_{14}(OR_{10})R_{15}$, ~~heteroaryloxy,~~ arylalkoxy, cycloalkoxy, $N(R_{14})COR_{15}$, $CO(NR_{14}R_{15})$, $N(R_{14})SO_2R_{16}$, $SO_2(NR_{14}R_{15})$, $SR_{16}$, $SOR_{16}$, $SO_2R_{16}$, and $CH_2NR_{14}R_{15}$;

$R_3$ is selected from hydrogen, alkyl, benzyl, aroyl and alkanoyl;

$R_4$ is halogen or alkyl;

$R_5$ is hydrogen, halogen or alkyl;

$R_6$ and $R_7$ are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, cyano, $C_1$ to $C_4$ alkyl and $C_3$ to $C_6$ cycloalkyl, where at least one of $R_6$ and $R_7$ is not hydrogen;

$R_8$ and $R_9$ are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, alkoxy, hydroxy(-OH), cyano, $CF_3$ and alkyl, where at least one of $R_6$ and $R_7$ is not hydrogen;

provided that no more than one of $R_6$, $R_7$, $R_8$ and $R_9$ is hydrogen;

$R_{10}$ for each occurrence is independently selected from hydrogen or alkyl;

$R_{11}$ is $CO_2R_{14}$;

$R_{12}$ and $R_{13}$ are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen and alkyl;

$R_{14}$ and $R_{15}$ for each occurrence are each independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, ~~heteroaryl~~, arylalkyl ~~and heteroarylalkyl~~; and

$R_{16}$ for each occurrence is independently selected from selected from alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, ~~heteroaryl~~, arylalkyl and ~~heteroarylalkyl~~,

including all prodrugs, stereoisomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

2. (Original) The compound as defined in Claim 1 wherein X is oxygen.

3. (Original) The compound as defined in Claim 2 wherein

$R_1$ is hydrogen;

$R_2$ is $C_i$ to $C_6$ alkyl or $C_3$ to $C_7$ cycloalkyl;

$R_3$ is hydrogen;

$R_4$ is halogen or $C_1$ to $C_4$ alkyl;

$R_5$ is hydrogen;

$R_6$ and $R_7$ are independently bromo, chloro or methyl;

$R_8$ is halogen or $C_1$ to $C_4$ alkyl;

$R_9$ is hydrogen or halogen;

$R_{10}$ is hydrogen;

$R_{11}$ is carboxyl;

$R_{12}$ is hydrogen; and

$R_{13}$ is hydrogen.

4. (Original) The compound as defined in Claim 3 wherein $R_2$ is isopropyl.

5. (Original) The compound as defined in Claim 2 wherein

$R_1$ is hydrogen;

$R_2$ is isopropyl;

$R_3$ is hydrogen;

$R_4$ is $C_1$ to $C_4$ alkyl;

$R_5$ is hydrogen;

$R_6$ and $R_7$ are independently bromo, chloro or methyl;

$R_8$ is halogen or methyl;

$R_9$ is hydrogen or chloro;

$R_{10}$ is hydrogen;

$R_{11}$ is carboxyl;

$R_{12}$ is hydrogen; and

$R_{13}$ is hydrogen.

6. (Original) The compound as defined in Claim 2 wherein

$R_1$ is hydrogen;

$R_2$ is isopropyl;

$R_3$ is hydrogen;

$R_4$ is methyl;

$R_5$ is hydrogen;

$R_6$ and $R_7$ are independently bromo or chloro;

$R_8$ is chloro or methyl;

$R_9$ is hydrogen;

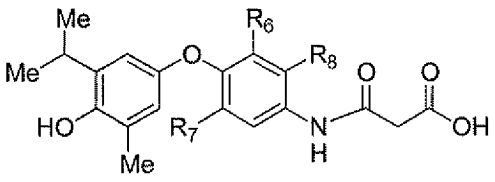
$R_{10}$ is hydrogen;

$R_{11}$ is carboxyl;

$R_{12}$ is hydrogen; and

$R_{13}$ is hydrogen.

7. (Original) The compound as defined in Claim 1 having the structure

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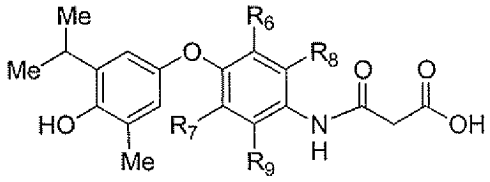
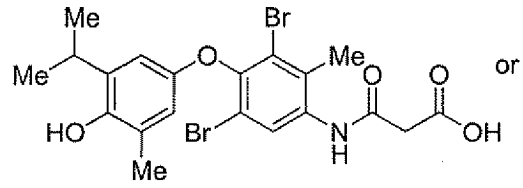



or an alkyl ester thereof.

8. (Original) The compound as defined in Claim 1 having the structure

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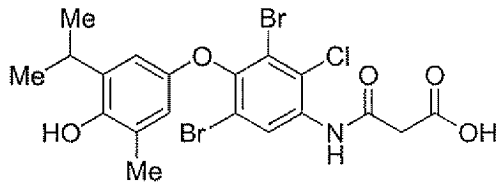


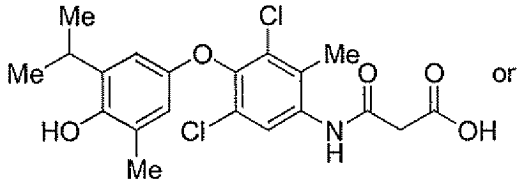


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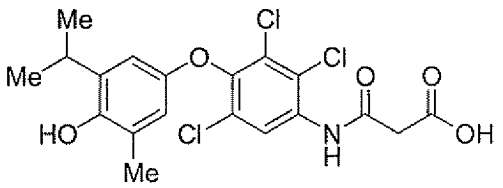


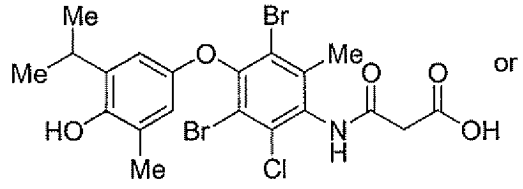


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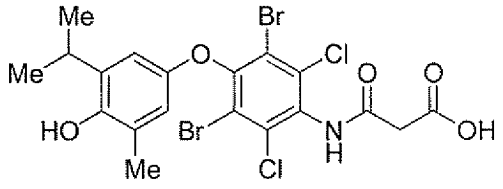


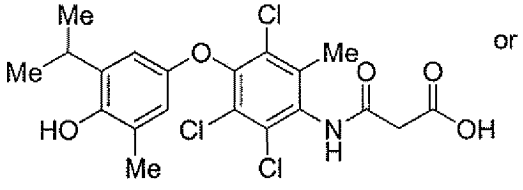


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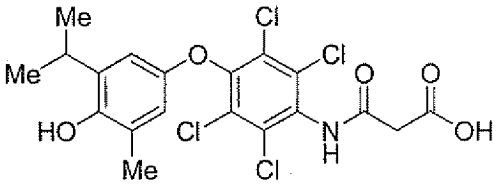


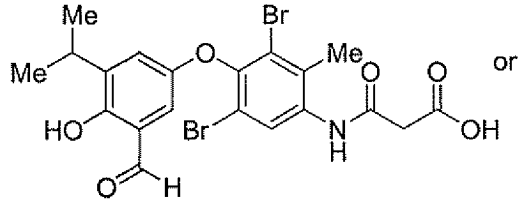


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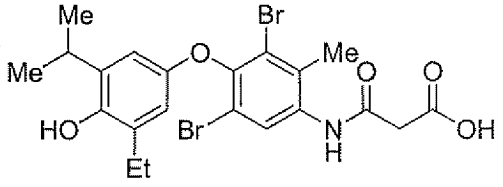


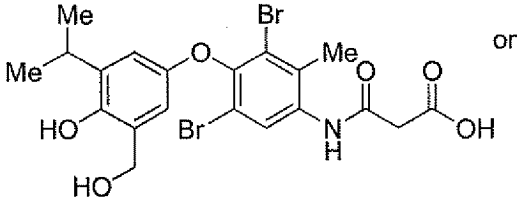


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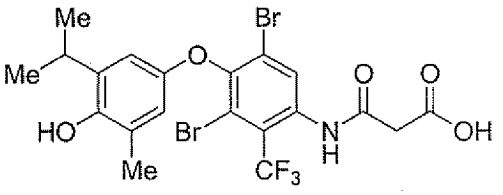
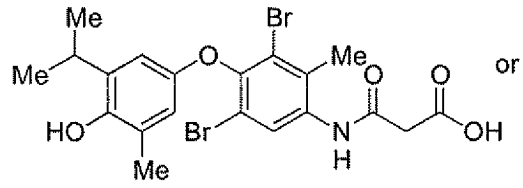



or an alkyl ester thereof.

9. (Original) The compound as defined in Claim 1 having the structure



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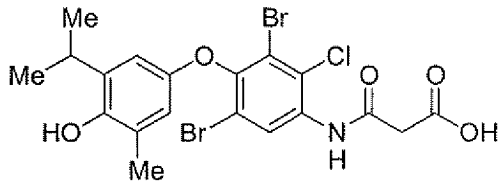


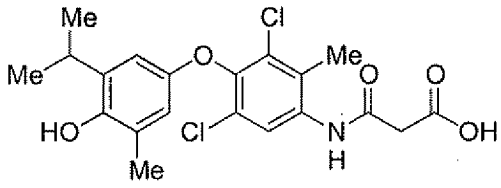

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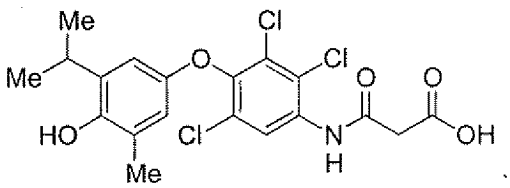
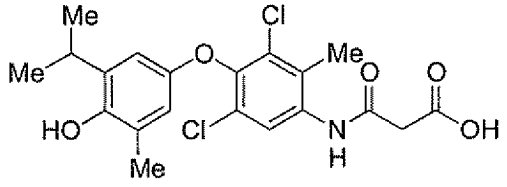



10. (Original) The compound as defined in Claim 1 having the structure



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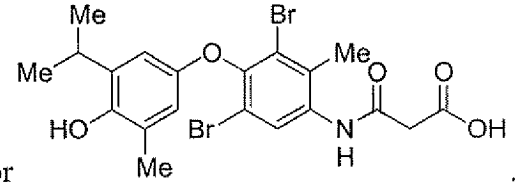


11. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as defined in claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.

12. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 11 further comprising at least one additional therapeutic agent selected from other compounds of formula I, anti-diabetic agents, anti-osteoporosis agents, anti-obesity agents, growth promoting agents, anti-inflammatory agents, anti-anxiety agents, anti-depressants, anti-hypertensive agents, cardiac glycosides, cholesterol/lipid lowering agents, appetite supressants, bone resorption inhibitors, thyroid mimetics, anabolic agents, anti-tumor agents and retinoids.

13. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 12 wherein said additional therapeutic agent is an antidiabetic agent selected from a biguanide, a glucosidase inhibitor, a meglitinide, a sulfonylurea, a thiazolidinedione, a PPAR-alpha agonist, a PPAR-gamma agonist, a PPAR alpha/gamma dual agonist, an SGLT2 inhibitor, a glycogen phosphorylase inhibitor, an aP2 inhibitor, a glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1), a dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibitor and insulin.

14. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 12 wherein said additional therapeutic agent is an antidiabetic agent selected from metformin, glyburide, glimepiride, glipyride, glipizide, chlorpropamide, gliclazide, acarbose, miglitol, troglitazone, pioglitazone, englitazone, darglitazone, rosiglitazone and insulin.

15. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 12 wherein said additional therapeutic agent is an anti-obesity agent selected from an aP2 inhibitor, a PPAR gamma antagonist, a PPAR delta agonist, a beta 3 adrenergic agonist, a lipase inhibitor, a serotonin reuptake inhibitor, a cannabinoid-1 receptor antagonist and an anorectic agent.

16. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 12 wherein said additional therapeutic agent is a hypolipidemic agent selected from thiazolidinedione, an MTP inhibitor, a squalene synthetase inhibitor, an HMG CoA reductase inhibitor, a fibric acid derivative, an ACAT inhibitor, a cholesterol absorption inhibitor, an ileal $Na^+$/bile cotransporter inhibitor, a bile acid sequestrant and a nicotinic acid or a derivative thereof.

17 to 24. Canceled.

25. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition which functions as a selective agonist of the thyroid hormone receptor comprising a compound as defined in claim 1.